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Roche sees hypersonic technologies during lab visit



WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Dr. Thomas Jackson, deputy for science in the aerospace propulsion division, explains the intricacies of the Air Force-designed supersonic combustion ramjet to Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche. Roche toured the Propulsion Directorate's research facility in June and received updates on the advanced hypersonic air breathing engine that could power a vehicle up to speeds of Mach 8. Hypersonic technologies developed in the propulsion lab could enable a wide spectrum of warfighting capabilities from high-speed weapons and aircraft to easy space access. Pictured from left to right — Maj. Gen. Paul Nielsen, Commander, Air Force Research Laboratory; Lt. Gen. Charles Coolidge Jr., vice commander, Air Force Materiel Command; Brig. Gen. William Jabour, Aeronautical Systems Center vice commander; and Dr. Jacqueline Henningsen, director of the Air Force Studies and Analysis Agency. (Air Force photo by Michael Kelly)